

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO

TOPIC Soviet Field Exercises in the Stendal Area 25X1A

25X1A

EVALUATION 25X1A PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 22 April to 4 May 1951

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DATE OBTAINED 29 May 1951

REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 22 April and 4 May 1951, the troops at Stendal (M 53/Y 85) conducted field exercises lasting several days. Trucks loaded with billeting equipment, which entered the Hirdenburg Kaserne on 23 April, 25X1

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Six of the 10 or 11 buildings of the barracks installation were not lighted on the evening of 29 April.

2. About 20 trucks, occupied by troops with field equipment and towing 4 light AT guns and 4 heavy mortars, left the Taunzien Kaserne toward Arnim at about 9 p.m. on 26 April. 25X1

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Local residents said that about 15 trucks with troops had left the installation in the same direction in the early morning of the same day. The Taunzien Kaserne was only partially occupied on 27 April.

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3. About 25 trucks, carrying troops and equipment and towing eight 76.2-mm artillery pieces, were seen en route from the Albrecht der Baer Kaserne toward Arnim at about 5 a.m. on 27 April. Six of them 25X1

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Tanks and 1 SP gun also left the Albrecht der Baer Kaserne toward Arnim at about 8 p.m. on the same day. One tank and 1 SP gun returned to the installation from the direction of Arnim on 29 April. 25X1A

4. Two heavy AT guns were observed to have been emplaced by the road to Wittenberge, about three km north of Gross Schwechten, on 3 May. Camouflaged truck 25X1A stood near the guns. Local residents said that about 2,000 troops bivouacked in tents and earth shelters in the wooded area. Fifteen trucks, each carrying from 20 to 25 soldiers with field equipment, were seen moving along the Gross Schwechten-Magsewig road. Six of the trucks 25X1A

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Other trucks which were seen driving singly between Borstel and Gross Schwechten 25X1A

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ **CONFIDENTIAL**

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No Change in Class. ☐

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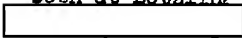
5. Residents of Wahnburg said that from 25 to 30 tanks and 15 trucks with troops passed through the town during the night of 26 April, coming from the direction of Stendal and proceeding toward Insel. *

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- * Comment. The report probably refers to a military post field exercise which was conducted in late April and early May 1951 and which, involved elements of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div, headquarters units of the Third Shock Army and, possibly, headquarters units of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps and components of the 19th Gds Mecz Div. The report indicates that the field exercise was held in the area northeast, north and west of Stendal. It is therefore unlikely that the 207th Mtz Rifle Div, or even only elements of it, should have been at Letzlin Heath after the middle or end of April 1951.

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